

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPECIAL NEEDS TEEN DIES AFTER BEING LEFT UNSUPERVISED AT VALLEJO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL

Solano County, CA – The nightmare of every parent after they leave their child at school in the morning, a call telling them that their child is being rushed to the hospital. That is the call Reauchan DeLeon Watson had to take. She had entrusted him with Everest Academy in Vallejo, California just that morning. Her 17-year-old special needs grandson, Kevon DeLeon, had somehow wandered away from his supervised special needs program and had been found over two miles from the school, along the road, after suffering from a seizure. Kevon was taken to the hospital but sadly Kevon died just days later. His life ended as it was just beginning at a school his grandmother had thought would keep him safe and educate him.

How does a special needs teen, who is supposed to be always supervised, wander off campus and travel over two miles from the school site without being missed? How does that trust break down between a parent and a school? More importantly, how do we make sure another parent does not have to endure a call, that Reauchan had to take, about their child?

Those are some of the questions that the family's attorney, Bryan Harrison of Harrison | Kristopher, LLP will be asking in their lawsuit against Everest Academy. Mr. Harrison, a native of Vallejo and the son of Michael Harrison, a retired special education teacher who had worked for Vallejo City Unified School District's Jesse Bethel High school. Mr. Bryan Harrison had this to say about this case *"I have a unique perspective and insight into the trust that parents put in their child's educators and the bond that develops between special needs children and the people that collaborate with them daily. My hometown needs answers in this case. Why did young Kevon have to die? Why did the School Staff that were paid to care for Kevon fail in their duty? Why didn't anyone notice Kevon was missing until it was too late? My team and I will be working diligently to uncover those answers and seeking both the truth and justice for the family who had loved and raised Kevon."*

Ms. Edi Kristopher, a partner at Harrison | Kristopher, LLP, co-counsel on this case, and a mom with a special needs child knows firsthand the significant challenges special needs children face in the public school system. She says *"there are simply not enough trained special needs aides to assist children with disabilities. The ratio of aides to students is very disproportionate. The public school system failed Kevon and his family"*.

Mr. Harrison would be open to interviews to answer what facts he and the family know about what happened to Kevon that day. Please contact Raquel Jurado at the Harrison | Kristopher office at 866-988-4924 to coordinate an interview.

Harrison | Kristopher, LLP is a law firm that specializes in Personal injury, Medical Malpractice, Employment Law and Elder Abuse. The attorneys at Harrison | Kristopher, Bryan Harrison and Edi Patience Kristopher are seasoned trial lawyers who have the resources and skills needed to face big business and big government to help their clients obtain the justice they seek. With their California offices located in Concord and Pasadena, they are able to meet the needs of their clients throughout California and Texas.

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